

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (original) An image processing apparatus comprising:

a paper transport mechanism that transports paper, and

an image processing mechanism that performs image reading processing of the paper transported by the paper transport mechanism, wherein

when, in the case that multi-feeding has occurred in which when a first paper is transported by the paper transport mechanism another paper is also transported, and the other paper is not positioned between the first paper and a working portion of the image processing mechanism, the working portion of the image processing mechanism is allowed to operate.

2. (original) An original reading apparatus comprising:

an original transport mechanism that, along with having a movable member that can make contact with an original placed on an original placement stage, transports the original by delivering it from the original placement stage by transmitting the movement of the movable member to the original with frictional force between the movable member and the original, which is in contact with the movable member, and

an original reading mechanism having a light source that illuminates the original, an optical sensor, and an optical system that guides light reflected from the original illuminated

by the light source to the optical sensor, and that captures an image of the original transported by the original transport mechanism, wherein

when, in the case that multi-feeding has occurred in which when a first original is transported by the paper transport mechanism another original is also transported, and the other original is not positioned between the first original and a reading portion of the original reading mechanism, the reading operation of the image of the first original by the original reading mechanism is continued.

3. (original) The original reading apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the original transport mechanism is a structure in which a plurality of pages of originals that have been placed on the original placement stage with the original face upward are supplied and transported page by page beginning with the top page, or a structure in which a plurality of pages of originals that have been placed on the original placement stage with the original face downward are supplied and transported page by page beginning with the bottom page.

4. (original) An original reading apparatus comprising:

an original transport mechanism that, along with having a movable member that can make contact with an original placed on an original placement stage, transports the original by delivering it from the original placement stage by transmitting the movement of the movable

member to the original with frictional force between the movable member and the original, which is in contact with the movable member, and

an original reading mechanism having a light source that illuminates the original, an optical sensor, and an optical system that guides light reflected from the original illuminated by the light source to the optical sensor, and that captures an image of the original transported by the original transport mechanism, wherein

when, in the case that multi-feeding has occurred in which when a first original is transported by the paper transport mechanism another original is also transported, and the other original is positioned between the first original and a reading portion of the original reading mechanism, the reading operation of the image of the first original by the original reading mechanism is stopped.

5. (original) An original reading apparatus comprising:

an original transport mechanism that, along with having a movable member that can make contact with an original placed on an original placement stage, transports the original by delivering it from the original placement stage by transmitting the movement of the movable member to the original with frictional force between the movable member and the original, which is in contact with the movable member, and

an original reading mechanism having a light source that illuminates the original, an optical sensor, and an optical system that guides light reflected from the original illuminated

by the light source to the optical sensor, and that captures an image of the original transported by the original transport mechanism, wherein

when, in the case that multi-feeding has occurred in which when a first original is transported by the paper transport mechanism another original is also transported, and the other original is positioned between the first original and a reading portion of the original reading mechanism, the reading operation of the image of the other original by the original reading mechanism is continued.

6. (original) The original reading apparatus according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the original transport mechanism is a structure in which a plurality of pages of originals that have been placed on the original placement stage with the original face upward are supplied and transported page by page beginning with the bottom page, or a structure in which a plurality of pages of originals that have been placed on the original placement stage with the original face downward are supplied and transported page by page beginning with the top page.

7. (original) The original reading apparatus according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the original reading mechanism detects the leading edge of the other original when reading the first original.

8. (original) The original reading apparatus according to claim 5, wherein when the original reading mechanism has detected the leading edge of the other original during reading of the first original, the original reading mechanism stops the reading operation of the first original and deletes the read image.

9. (original) The original reading apparatus according to claim 2, 4, or 5, wherein a notifier is provided that, when the reading operation of the first original could not be performed due to multi-feeding, makes such a notification.

10. (original) The original reading apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the notifier makes a notification of information of the original for which reading could not be performed due to multi-feeding.

11. (original) An electronic equipment, wherein a scanner apparatus, copy apparatus, or facsimile apparatus, or a multifunction machine in which any two or more of these apparatuses are combined, is equipped with the image processing apparatus according to claim 1.

12. (currently amended) An electronic equipment, wherein a scanner apparatus, copy apparatus, or facsimile apparatus, or a multifunction machine in which any two or more of these

apparatuses are combined, is equipped with the original reading apparatus according to ~~any one~~
~~of claims 2 through 9~~ claim 2.

13. (original) An original reading method comprising:

a step of transporting an original with an original transport mechanism,

a step of reading an image of the transported original with an original reading
mechanism,

a step of detecting multi-feeding of another original when transporting a first
original with the original transport mechanism, and

a step of continuing the reading operation of the image of the first original by the
original reading mechanism in the case that the other original is not positioned between the first
original and the reading portion of the original reading mechanism, even when the multi-feeding
has been detected.

14. (original) An original reading method comprising:

a step of transporting an original with an original transport mechanism,

a step of reading an image of the transported original with an original reading
mechanism,

- a step of detecting multi-feeding of another original when transporting a first original with the original transport mechanism, and
- a step of continuing the reading operation of the image of the other original by the original reading mechanism in the case that the multi-feeding has been detected and the other original is positioned between the first original and the reading portion of the original reading mechanism.